

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) An information output device comprising:
 - a first information selection unit selecting information including a plurality of image data;
 - an outline presenting information creation unit creating, using a processor, outline presenting information corresponding to each of the plurality of image data in parallel; and
 - a presentation unit presenting said created outline presenting information, wherein
 - said presentation unit presents alternative information in stages before completion of said outline presenting information creation process,
 - said alternative information includes at least one of the following intermediate information under course of creation in said outline presenting information creation unit in stages according to respective said outline presenting information creation process or another set of information, and
 - said outline presenting information is presented by the presentation unit in place of said alternative information when said outline presenting information creation process is completed.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously presented) The information output device according to claim 1, further comprising:
 - an outline presenting information creation control unit controlling execution of said outline presenting information creation process in said outline presenting information creation unit; and
 - a storage unit storing outline presenting information, wherein
 - when said outline presenting information is stored in said storage unit,
 - said outline presenting information creation control unit performs control such that said outline presenting information creation process is not executed in said outline presenting information creation unit, and

said presentation unit presents said outline presenting information stored in said storage unit.

4. (Previously presented) The information output device according to claim 3, further comprising a second information selection unit selecting information to be subjected to said outline presenting information creation process based on said information selected by said first information selection unit, wherein

said outline presenting information creation unit creates outline presenting information for image data included in the information selected by said second information selection unit and stores the same in said storage unit.

5. (Previously presented) The information output device according to claim 4, wherein said second information selection unit selects information to be subjected to said outline presenting information creation process based on a status of the information output device.

6. (Previously presented) The information output device according to claim 4, wherein said second information selection unit selects information to be subjected to said outline presenting information creation process based on an attribute of said information selected by said first information selection unit.

7. (Previously presented) The information output device according to claim 4, wherein when information including a plurality of image data is included in multiple pieces of information selected by said second information selection unit, said outline presenting information creation control unit controls execution of said outline presenting information creation process in said outline presenting information creation unit such that, for all information selected by said second information selection unit, outline presenting information for at least one image data included in said information is created.

8. (Previously presented) The information output device according to claim 4, wherein when information including a plurality of image data is included in multiple pieces of

information selected by said second information selection unit, said outline presenting information creation control unit controls execution of said outline presenting information creation process in said outline presenting information creation unit such that, for one piece of information selected by said second information selection unit, outline presenting information for image data included in information subsequent to said one piece of information is created after outline presenting information for all image data included in said one piece of information has been created.

9. (Previously presented) The information output device according to claim 3, further comprising:

a deleted outline presenting information selection unit selecting outline presenting information to be subjected to deletion from said storage unit; and
a deletion unit deleting said selected outline presenting information.

10. (Previously Presented) The information output device according to claim 9, wherein said deleted outline presenting information selection unit selects said outline presenting information to be subjected to deletion based on an attribute of image data.

11. (Previously presented) The information output device according to claim 9, wherein said deleted outline presenting information selection unit selects said outline presenting information to be subjected to deletion based on a data size of said outline presenting information.

12. (Previously presented) The information output device according to claim 9, wherein said deleted outline presenting information selection unit selects said outline presenting information to be subjected to deletion based on costs of said outline presenting information creation process in said outline presenting information creation unit.

13. (Previously presented) The information output device according to claim 9, wherein said deleted outline presenting information selection unit selects said outline presenting

information to be subjected to deletion based on a presentation status of said outline presenting information in said presentation unit.

14. (Previously Presented) The information output device according to claim 9, wherein when said deleted outline presenting information selection unit selects a plurality of said outline presenting information to be subjected to deletion, said deletion unit deletes prescribed outline presenting information among said outline presenting information to be subjected to deletion such that outline presenting information of at least one image data included in one piece of information is left.

15. (Previously presented) The information output device according to claim 1, further comprising an outline presenting information presentation control unit controlling a timing of presentation of said outline presenting information in said presentation unit.

16. (Previously presented) The information output device according to claim 15, wherein said outline presenting information presentation control unit controls said timing of presentation of said outline presenting information in said presentation unit such that said outline presenting information is presented after expiration of a prescribed time interval after said information is selected by said first information selection unit.

17. (Previously Presented) The information output device according to claim 1, wherein said outline presenting information creation unit creates said outline presenting information using at least a part of said image data.

18. (Currently amended) An information output method comprising:
a first information selection step of selecting information including a plurality of image data;
an outline presenting information creation step of creating outline presenting information corresponding to each of the plurality of image data in parallel; and
a presentation step of presenting said created outline presenting information, wherein

at said presentation step, alternative information is presented in stages before completion of said outline presenting information creation process,

said alternative information includes at least one of the following intermediate information under course of creation at said outline presenting information creation step in stages according to respective said outline presenting information creation process or another set of information, and

said outline presenting information is presented in place of said alternative information when said outline presenting information creation process is completed.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously presented) The information output method according to claim 18, further comprising:

an outline presenting information creation control step of controlling execution of said outline presenting information creation process at said outline presenting information creation step; and

a storage step of storing outline presenting information in a storage device, wherein

when said outline presenting information is stored in said storage device,

at said outline presenting information creation control step, control is performed such that said outline presenting information creation process is not executed at said outline presenting information creation step, and

at said presentation step, said outline presenting information stored in said storage device is presented.

21. (Previously presented) The information output method according to claim 20, further comprising a second information selection step of selecting information to be subjected to said outline presenting information creation process based on said information selected at said first information selection step, wherein

at said outline presenting information creation step, outline presenting information of image data included in the information selected at said second information selection step is created and stored in said storage device.

22. (Previously presented) The information output method according to claim 21, wherein at said second information selection step, said information to be subjected to said outline presenting information creation process is selected based on a status of an information output device.

23. (Previously presented) The information output method according to claim 21, wherein at said second information selection step, said information to be subjected to said outline presenting information creation process is selected based on an attribute of said information selected at said first information selection step.

24. (Previously presented) The information output method according to claim 21, wherein when information including a plurality of image data is included in multiple pieces of information selected at said second information selection step, at said outline presenting information creation control step, execution of said outline presenting information creation process at said outline presenting information creation step is controlled such that, for all the information selected at said second information selection step, outline presenting information of at least one image data included in said information is created.

25. (Previously presented) The information output method according to claim 21, wherein when information including a plurality of image data is included in multiple pieces of information selected at said second information selection step, at said outline presenting information creation control step, execution of said outline presenting information creation process at said outline presenting information creation step is controlled such that, for one piece of information selected at said second information selection step, outline presenting information for image data included in subsequent information is created after outline presenting information for all image data included in said one piece of information has been created.

26. (Previously presented) The information output method according to claim 20, further comprising:

a deleted outline presenting information selection step of selecting outline presenting information to be subjected to deletion from said storage step; and

a deletion step of deleting said selected outline presenting information.

27. (Previously Presented) The information output method according to claim 26, wherein at said deleted outline presenting information selection step, said outline presenting information to be subjected to deletion is selected based on an attribute of image data.

28. (Previously presented) The information output method according to claim 26, wherein at said deleted outline presenting information selection step, said outline presenting information to be subjected to deletion is selected based on a data size of said outline presenting information.

29. (Previously presented) The information output method according to claim 26, wherein at said deleted outline presenting information selection step, said outline presenting information to be subjected to deletion is selected based on costs of said outline presenting information creation process at said outline presenting information creation step.

30. (Previously presented) The information output method according to claim 26, wherein at said deleted outline presenting information selection step, said outline presenting information to be subjected to deletion is selected based on a presentation status of said outline presenting information at said presentation step.

31. (Previously Presented) The information output method according to claim 26, wherein when a plurality of said outline presenting information to be subjected to deletion are selected at said deleted outline presenting information selection step, at said deletion step, prescribed outline presenting information among said outline presenting information to be

subjected to deletion is deleted such that outline presenting information of at least one image data included in one piece of information is left.

32. (Previously presented) The information output method according to claim 18, further comprising an outline presenting information presentation control step of controlling a timing of presentation of said outline presenting information at said presentation step.

33. (Previously presented) The information output method according to claim 32, wherein at said outline presenting information presentation control step, said timing of presentation of said outline presenting information at said presentation step is controlled such that said outline presenting information is presented after expiration of a prescribed time interval after said information is selected at said first information selection step.

34. (Previously Presented) The information output method according to claim 18, wherein

at said outline presenting information creation step, said outline presenting information is created using at least a part of said image data.

35. (Currently amended) An information output program product causing a computer to execute a process of outputting information including image data, causing execution of:

a first information selection step of selecting information including a plurality of image data;

an outline presenting information creation step of creating outline presenting information corresponding to each of the plurality of image data in parallel; and

a presentation step of presenting said created outline presenting information, wherein

at said presentation step, alternative information is presented in stages before completion of said outline presenting information creation process,

said alternative information includes at least intermediate information under course of creation at said outline presenting information creation step in stages according to respective said outline presenting information creation process and another set of information, and

said outline presenting information is presented in place of said alternative information when said outline presenting information creation process is completed.

36. (Canceled)

37. (Previously presented) The information output program product according to claim 35, further causing execution of:

an outline presenting information creation control step of controlling execution of said outline presenting information creation process at said outline presenting information creation step; and

a storage step of storing outline presenting information in a storage device, wherein

when said outline presenting information is stored in said storage device,

at said outline presenting information creation control step, control is performed such that said outline presenting information creation process is not executed at said outline presenting information creation step, and

at said presentation step, said outline presenting information stored in said storage device is presented.

38. (Previously Presented) The information output program product according to claim 37, further causing execution of a second information selection step of selecting information to be subjected to said outline presenting information creation process based on said information selected at said first information selection step, wherein

at said outline presenting information creation step, outline presenting information of image data included in the information selected at said second information selection step is created and stored in said storage device.